

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. In a web based imaging environment, from a user's client browser, a method of providing the ability to specify a charge-back account, said method comprising the steps of:

accessing a destination service representing a production device;

downloading content from said destination service into said client browser;

retrieving said user's production data;

selecting production options for processing according to said user's production data using said production device; and

providing said user the ability to specify a charge-back account ID for said processing according to said user's production data using said production device.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising displaying a menu including a list of production options for processing according to said user's production data using said production device, said displayed list including a list of charge-back account IDs.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein said displayed list of charge-back account IDs includes only account IDs that are individually customized to said user.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising calculating a cost breakdown for said processing according to said user's production data using said production device.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein said cost breakdown is calculated prospectively during said steps of selecting and providing.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein said cost breakdown is displayed dynamically during said steps of selecting and providing.

7. The method of claim 5 further comprising analyzing and reporting resources required to execute said processing according to said user's production data using said production device.

8. The method of claim 1 further comprising specifying a charge-back account ID.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein a list of default production options associated with said specified charge-back account ID is displayed.

10. The method of claim 8 further comprising:
transmitting said user's production data using said production device to said destination service;

processing according to said user's production data using said production device in accordance with said selected production options;

calculating the cost of said processing according to said user's production data to be charged back; and

charging back said processing according to said user's production data to said specified charge-back account ID.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein said charging back occurs after said processing is completed.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein said processing does not proceed if a charge-back account ID is not specified.

13. The method of claim 1 wherein only specific production operations of said processing do not proceed if a charge-back account ID is not specified.

14. The method of claim 1 wherein said user's production data comprises imaging data.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein said imaging data is retrieved from said user's identity.

16. The method of claim 14 wherein said imaging data is retrieved from a hard disk local to said user's client browser.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein said production device comprises a printer.

18. The method of claim 1 wherein said destination service is remote from said client browser.

19. In a web based imaging environment, a destination service operable to:
represent a production device;
download content into a user's client browser;
retrieve production data associated with said user's client browser;
under interactive control of said user's client browser via said content, specify
production options for processing using said production device according to said production
data;
specify a charge-back account ID for said processing;
direct said production device to process in accordance with said selected production
options;
calculate the cost of said processing to be charged back; and
charge back said processing to said specified charge-back account ID.

20. The destination service of claim 19 further operable to display at said client
browser via said downloaded content a menu including a selection of production options and
charge-back account IDs associated with said production device.

21. The destination service of claim 20 wherein said displayed list includes only
account IDs that are individually customized to said user.

22. The destination service of claim 19 further operable to calculate a cost
breakdown estimate prior to directing said production device to process in accordance with
said selected production options.

23. The destination service of claim 22 further operable to display said cost
breakdown dynamically.

24. The destination service of claim 19 operable to retrieve said production data from said user's identity.

25. The destination service of claim 19 operable to retrieve said production data from a hard disk local to said user's client browser.

26. The destination service of claim 19 wherein said production data comprises imaging data.

27. The destination service of claim 19 wherein said production device comprises a printer.

28. In a web based imaging environment, a system providing the ability to specify a charge-back account, said system comprising:

a user's client browser operable to manage said user's production data;

a destination service representing a production device, said destination service accessible from said user's client browser and operable to download content into said user's browser and under interactive control of said user's client browser to specify production options and a charge-back account ID for processing using said production device according to said user's production data.

29. The system of claim 28 wherein said destination service is further operable to display at said user's client browser via said downloaded content a list of said production options and charge-back accounts.

30. The system of claim 28 wherein said destination service is further operable to calculate and display dynamically a cost breakdown estimate to process using said production device according to said user's production data and according to said specified production options.